1999 3-D SHOOTS SET TO BEGIN

The 1999 3D Archery Season at the Coon Valley Conservation Club will start on February 14th and 15th with a Valentine's Day shoot where traditionally women shoot free. The second shoot will be March 20th and 21st, the third shoot – May 22nd and 23rd, with the last shoot – a combination 3D and Broadhead Shoot on September 11th and 12th.

We are purchasing 7 new targets to include a caribou, HD bear, mountain lion, boar, coyote, large deer and a medium deer. Some of these are replacements, but we are also adding to the total number of good targets. This will open up some of the shooting possibilities to include multiple targets at each shooting location, where a hit on the wrong target will end up with no score or possibly a reduced score – this will be decided on later and the rules will be posted before the shoot.

We await the new year with optimism, but because these shoots require a great deal of set-up and labor, we would greatly appreciate any help we could get from the standing body of members, or if anyone knows any possible new members that would be willing we would be happy to get them involved.

We also encourage anyone in the club who has archery equipment to get out and shoot. It is a lot of fun and good exercise. The scores really don't matter and this is undoubtedly the best practice for hunting. The shooting is as close to real as it gets because the animals are life sized and three dimensional. There is a countless number of angles and slopes and as a hunter you owe it to the game animal to make the best shot you can.

The following is a list of the archery dates in the area for now. Note that the Viroqua shoot in February includes a swap meet. Anyone looking to buy equipment should check this out as there will be bows, arrows, sights, and other equipment. As of this time only Viroqua Archers members will be able to bring equipment to sell but look for this to change in the future.

Jeff Berg, CVCC Archery Club

1999 COON VALLEY CONSERVATION CLUB SHOOT SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FEB 13 - 14</td>
<td>3D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR 20 - 21</td>
<td>3D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY 22 - 23</td>
<td>3D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEP 11 - 12</td>
<td>3D / BROADHEAD</td>
</tr>
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1999 VIROQUA ARCHERS SHOOT SCHEDULE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FEB 27 - 28</td>
<td>3D (includes swap meet)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAY 15 - 16</td>
<td>3D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUG 28 - 29</td>
<td>BROADHEAD</td>
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Club Member Bruce Stuempges takes aim on a Black Bear during a previous 3-D shoot.
January marks the kickoff of our 1999 Membership Drive. If you need to renew your membership, be sure to come to the meeting on January 28 @ 7:30pm. If you have friends or relatives that would like to become members please have them contact Royce Curtis at 452-3809 for all your membership needs. The 1999 buttons will have a new look in recognition of Coon Valley's Sesquicentennial Celebration. Annual memberships are $5.00, Lifetime memberships are $50.00, and Lifetime member pins are $2.00. We are also anticipating a member of the Vernon County Crimestoppers organization to be a guest speaker at the meeting.

As you may have already seen, the archery club has its 1999 schedule listed in this issue of Club Lines. Once again, I invite you to come down and see what these bow shoots are all about. March 6 is the date of our Annual Spring Fundraiser. Tickets are $35.00 for a two person ticket and are available now. If you are a regular attendee of this event, please contact your regular source for tickets, and if you sell tickets, please contact us with how many you need.

What's new for 1999? We don't have any concrete plans in place yet, but the probable projects are the realignment and expansion of the gun range and addition of full service restrooms. Clubhouse improvements, BBQ Pit completion, and log house restoration are also on going projects that should carry into 1999. We also hope to plant an assortment of trees around the clubhouse. A special thank you goes out to Richard Nestingen for the time and effort that he has already put into this project. We would also like to thank Burton Lee for his generous donation of the trees we have already received.

October, Ralph Eswein of the DNR inspected our fish and found that all is going well with our trout rearing operation. The stocking date is scheduled for April 1, 1999 @9:00am (rain date: April 2nd). Anybody interested in helping out stocking trout should plan on attending.

I believe that 1999 will be an enjoyable and busy year for the Coon Valley Conservation Club. Maybe this will be the year that you will decide to become an active member. Currently, our meeting attendance is about 7% of our total membership, while our work and project days attendance run less than 2% of the total membership. These numbers should clearly point out that we need more members to take an active role in their club this year.

Our Club needs you. If you are unable to attend the member meetings, at least drop us a line and give some suggestions and recommendations on what you would like to see happen in 1999.

Your Club President,
Bruce King

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!
The 1999 Coon Valley Conservation Club sponsored Wisconsin DNR Hunter Education class has been tentatively scheduled to begin on Thursday, February 4, 1999 at 3:45 in the Coon Valley Village Hall. The class will run from 3:45 to 6:00 on each Thursday evening through March 25. There will also be two Saturday morning classes; March 20 will be a practice field day and March 27 will include “live firing” of .22’s on the shooting range for those students who successfully pass the written and practical exams on March 25th.

Hunter Education is required of all persons born after January 1, 1973 in order to purchase a hunting license in the state of Wisconsin. It is recommended that students be at least 12 years old or reach the age of 12 before hunting season and be ready to assume the responsibility of handling a firearm. There is no upper age limit. Adults and especially parents are encouraged to enroll in the class with their children. Last year’s graduates ranged from age 11 to 65. Graduates are life time certified and most states and Canadian provinces have reciprocal agreements accepting Wisconsin certification.

Hunter Education emphasizes firearm safety, wildlife habits and management, hunting techniques, and hunting laws and ethics. Specifically covered are: The Three Rules of Firearm Safety, Firearm Operation – identifying and operating different types of actions; identification of make, model, and gauge or caliber; safeties; sights. Ammunition – identifying rimfire, centerfire, shotgun and muzzleloader parts; practice loading and unloading with dummy ammunition. Firearm Handling – safe carries; shooting positions; sight picture and alignment; casing and uncasing. Storage of Firearms and Ammunition – cleaning; storage locations. Shooting Techniques – range commands; trigger control and breathing; shot groupings; sighting in; practice techniques. Wildlife Habitat and Management (Common game animals). Hunting Techniques – still hunting; ground blinds; tree stands; group hunting; trailing and recovering game; bow hunting; hunting with muzzleloaders. Hunting Laws and Ethics – Wisconsin game laws; what’s legal vs what’s right? personal hunting ethics.

The instructors are Royce Curtis 452-3809, Roger Anderson 452-3891, and Larry Leum 452-3425. Also assisting with the class is Wisconsin DNR Conservation Warden Ron Nerva. A class notice and signup sheet will be posted at the Chaseburg School in January. For further information contact any of the above instructors.

Wildlife Habitat Report
Fall-Winter 1998

Switchgrass Plantings
In May we planted 4 small plots with switchgrass. These plots are located on old pastureland found near the Coon Creek. Our intention was to establish thick patches of nesting and winter cover and provide safe travel corridors for wildlife. In September I surveyed the progress of these plantings. Three of the 4 fields had thin patches of switchgrass that was anywhere from shin to knee high. Some of the grass even went to seed this fall! The remaining field didn’t have any visible switchgrass growth. I had hoped for better success the 1st year but I think competition and shading from existing vegetation limited establishment of the grass. I have since talked to a friend in the Department of Natural Resources who plants switchgrass on Conservation Reserve Program lands and he said not to worry. He said we needed to continue to reduce competition by mowing several times during late spring and early summer and then let the switchgrass do the rest. Once the switchgrass takes over the only maintenance will be to conduct spring burns every 4 years. We still have switchgrass seed from last year and may plant a few more areas this spring.

Wildlife Food Plots
Just as in years past, Tom Mathison and Charles Sveum planted 2 wildlife food plots with corn and sunflower seeds. I walked through one plot in mid November and saw that a lot of corn was still available. You can bet that when our mild weather changes to snow and cold that these food plots will be a welcome sight for the critters.

No Fall Tillage
This year we rewrote our land rental contract with Rundahl Ranch to eliminate fall plowing. In past years fall tillage resulted in burying waste grain from wildlife. After fall tillage in 1997 I remember the farm looked pretty barren. Now after dark, it’s not uncommon to see the glowing eyes of deer in the harvested corn fields. The deer are replaced during the day by large flocks of wild turkey that are out scratching for a morsel. Ending fall tillage is just another step we can take to make our property more attractive to wildlife.

Colin Sveum
1999 MEMBERSHIP KICKOFF
JANUARY MEMBER MEETING

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1999 - 7:30pm
COON VALLEY CONSERVATION CLUB CLUBHOUSE

FREE REFRESHMENTS - FREE LUNCH - DOOR PRIZES

1999 SPRING FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1999
COON VALLEY VILLAGE HALL

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM
$35.00 PER COUPLE

FOOD - REFRESHMENTS - GAMES - MUSIC
RAFFLE - GUN TABLE - LADIES TABLE